

**JAN 12 1993**

Ms. Christina Purcell  
Case Manager  
Bureau of Federal Case Management  
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection  
401 East State Street, CN 028  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0028

Re: Additional Comments Regarding the L. E. Carpenter Company (aka  
Dayco Corporation) Site in Wharton, NJ

Dear Ms. Purcell:

Please find enclosed copies of the following memos relating to the  
L. E. Carpenter Company Site:

- 1) the January 6, 1993 memo from Larry Tannenbaum regarding the  
Rockaway River Sediment Ecological Assessment report,
- 2) the undated memo from Shari Stevens regarding the Rockaway  
River Sediment Ecological Assessment report, and
- 3) the January 6, 1993 memo from John Filippelli regarding the  
revised Feasibility Study (FS) report.

As discussed with you during our January 8 telephone conversation,  
the EPA comments on the FS report need not be addressed in a  
revised FS report. They can be addressed in supplemental documents  
which would be included in the administrative record.

Feel free to contact me at 212 264-8098 if you wish to discuss this  
matter.

Sincerely yours,

Jonathan Josephts, Project Manager  
New Jersey Superfund Branch II  
Emergency and Remedial Response Division

Enclosures

*JJ* 1/11/93

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**Technical Review of the "Rockaway River Sediment Ecological Assessment" for the Dayco Corp./ L. E. Carpenter and Co. Site**

**Shari Stevens, Environmental Scientist  
Surveillance and Monitoring Branch (ESD-SMB)**

**Jonathan Josephs, Remedial Project Manager  
New Jersey Superfund Branch 2 (NJSB2-N)**

As per your request, we have reviewed the "Rockaway River Sediment Ecological Assessment" for Dayco Corp./ L. E. Carpenter and Company, located in Wharton, New Jersey. We provide the following comments.

The data suggests a shift in macroinvertebrate populations which indicates some improvement in water quality as the distance from the site increases. The authors conclude that the impaired areas closer to the site are probably the result of increased suspended organics in the stream caused by the outfall of Washington Pond. This conclusion, that there is no site related impacts, appears to be subjective based on the evidence presented in the report.

Subsequent to review by our Regional Rapid Bioassessment Procedures (RBP) expert, who is familiar with the Rockaway River, we conclude that reference location 1, rather than reference location 2, is more applicable for making comparisons to the other sampling locations. Use of reference location 2, in this situation, creates a higher degree of uncertainty, particularly when drawing conclusions. Although the source of impairment would still be in question, the minimal impacts on the benthic community probably would not warrant additional investigations or remedial activities, at this time.

I hope these comments have been helpful. The BTAG and/or ESD is available to provide further assistance. If you have any questions, or require further information, please feel free to contact me at (908) 906-6994.

cc: Ray Basso, NJSB2  
Nickie DiForte, NJSB2-N